

Perception vs Reality

By Bre

Perception in comparison to reality has been an issue individuals in society have faced for centuries. Early innovators including Albert Einstein and Thomas Edison were mocked and shunned. This inspired them to prove to the world that their inventions and concepts in the field of science would later make an impact. With that being said, it can be stated that society previously viewed them negatively when in reality, they invented and innovated. How people perceive themselves is different than how we view ourselves. We are responsible to create our realities. People in our lives: family, friends, co-workers and others can be an influence, but cannot create your reality.

The reason I bring up this topic is because I perceive myself differently than those that observe and interact with me. After receiving letters of recommendation for my scholarship notebook from mid to late February, one letter was especially of importance to me from my next door neighbor. Around three years ago, my family moved to a neighborhood. The first memory of the move were my next door neighbors.

Them and their family continuously leave a positive impact on my life. Both of them have ultimately aided me to realize that one day I *will* make a difference in the world and in other's lives. Writing for me started at a young age and has since progressed. They support my goals, hopes and dreams and are incredible neighbors to visit with my pets Pumpkin and Daisy.

My neighbor's wife gardens and decorates for every holiday. This Valentine's Day she strung pink and red lights and hearts at the entrance of our neighborhood and placed heart lights at the front of her garden. Every spring her tulips and different flowers brighten my day and give me hope for the future. I view myself as being hardworking, dedicated, strong, one to take initiative, easily persevere and never give up.

If it were not for either of them and their family, I never would have realized this. A huge thank you goes out to their family. Thank you for being amazing and incredible neighbors as well as the best ones my family has had the pleasure of living next door to. Each and every one of you will forever hold a special place in my heart and continue to inspire and brighten my days.